

63-6786

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: CIA Organization for Scientific and
Technical Intelligence

1. I expressed to the Board, in my response of 15 April 1963 my concern at what would appear to be "fragmentation and compartmentation" of the scientific and technical assets of the Central Intelligence Agency. I further mentioned at that time that the solving of this problem could possibly be brought about by an across-the-board merger of our scientific and technical assets or attacking the problem by giving a responsibility on scientific and technical matters, at the staff level, to the OD/A.

2. I have elected to approach this problem by utilizing both of these organizational devices. By so doing we have successfully solved part of the problem and also so postured ourselves that we may better analyze our remaining difficulties and accordingly come forward with the best possible solution.

3. On 3 August 1963 I activated a Directorate for Science and Technology under the command control of a CIA Deputy Director. This new Directorate, which replaces the former Directorate for Research, has five Offices under its jurisdiction. Three of these offices namely the Office of Special Activities, the Office of ININT and the Office of Research and Development, were transferred to this new Directorate called OD/S&T. The Office of Scientific Intelligence was transferred from the Directorate of Intelligence and put under OD/S&T. A fifth Office was created from what was formerly known as the Automatic Data Processing Staff and

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which is now designated as the Office of Computer Services. This latter Office represents a semi-centralized facility for the human resources and machinery used to render computing services to operating components of CIA.

4. There were many reasons which impelled us to activate the DD/S&T, a great number of which have been discussed between us. I would like to underscore for your consideration, however, two of the major lines of reasoning that influenced our action. By establishing this new Directorate, and assigning to it the five offices described above, we now have in being a major integrated unit of organization covering the entire spectrum of technical intelligence; i.e., research, development, industrial production, deployment, collection, analysis and feedback, and intelligence production. As a subsidiary advantage to this first reason we also have established a scientific and technical organizational base which, if we should so decide, can be expanded to include other scientific and technical undertakings of CIA. Secondly, we have successfully created an organizational environment in which the free exchange of scientific and technical competency can flow more freely and in which our scientific personnel will find a much greater degree of career mobility.

5. You will note that this organizational development does not encompass the research and development responsibilities of the DD/P, as discharged by the Technical Services Division or the advanced technological endeavor of our Office of Communications. I do not rule out the possibility at some future time of bringing these two facilities also under the cognizance of the new DD/S&T. I do feel, however, we have made a long stride forward in this field of endeavor which is of mutual concern to us. Accordingly, it seems to me that this step, plus the new staff matters discussed below represent a reasonable degree of forward movement without assuming a risk of endeavoring to do too much to a complex institutional matter at any one given time.

6. I now would like to acquaint you with developments in the matter of moving toward over-all staff coordination of scientific and technical matters as opposed to the above description of organizational and command matters. I informed you on 15 April that I was moving ahead on the creation of an intra-Agency Board for staff direction of the scientific and

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technical effort. On 16 April 1963 I activated a Research and Development Service Board and charged that Board with the following general responsibilities:

"....reviewing and integrating research and development activities, and scientific and technical efforts, in the various Agency components concerned. The Board shall ensure that all scientific and technical activities are constantly related to the broadest interpretation of the Agency's mission, and shall constitute a reviewing body for the Agency's research and development effort as a whole."

7. I directed my Deputy, General Carter, to chair this Board and the Deputy Director (Research), the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, the Chief, Technical Services Division, the Director of Communications, and the Director of XPIC, were appointed as members. When I created the Directorate of Science and Technology on 3 August I relieved General Carter as Chairman of this Board and appointed the new DD/S&T as its Chairman. This was done quite deliberately so that my senior Deputy responsible for scientific and technical matters could be afforded another opportunity to focus on these matters and to make available to him the best possible forum for an appreciation of all scientific and technical endeavors of CIA.

8. Of equal, if not more importance, in this matter of sizing the entire scope of the field of science and technology, I also activated on 16 July 1963 the "Scientific Advisory Board to the Director of Central Intelligence". I have charged this Board, in the most general sense, of being "responsible for reviewing and advising the Director about total scientific functions of the entire Agency". I think it of value and interest to you that you be advised of certain of the specific responsibilities that I have asked this Board to take under consideration. Accordingly, I am attaching for your information a copy of the Agency organizational Notice establishing this Board, and I draw your attention specifically to the contents of paragraph 3. As you will note in the attached, this new Scientific Advisory Board is chaired by a man of considerable eminence, [REDACTED]

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9. The above represents facts that have come into existence since I last reported to you on 15 April. There is one development now underway which I believe will be of considerable interest and should be reported to you. We have had considerable discussion within CIA and also with the Department of Defense on establishing, under CIA, on a single-manager concept, a Missile and Space Technical Intelligence Center (MISTIC). This undertaking, which I would see eventually being done within this Agency at the Office level is designed to support the intelligence community in its responsibility to provide intelligence on foreign missile and space events. I believe we have to bring about a National focus for producing all-source authoritative intelligence summaries of individual missile and space events. The magnitude of the problem is such, and the dispersion and variety of collection vehicles, both land and air, is so widespread throughout the Federal structure that we propose initially to give consideration to the creation of a centralized analysis activity. Subsequent to the accomplishment of this step, we can then proceed with giving attention to the establishment of a better coordinated collection function. We do not envision the transfer of ownership and control of collection vehicles from using agencies to CIA. We do envision, however, a responsibility being discharged by CIA, on behalf of the intelligence community, which will alert the various collection media and be further responsible for their deployment to meet any given event. I might add here parenthetically that we foresee possibilities in this matter which may allow us to implement one of your recommendations concerning the creation, organization and exploitation of new resources of science and technology for use in intelligence activities. We have yet, in our opinion, to make satisfactory let alone maximum utilization of radiant, acoustical, backscatter radar, to mention only a few.

John A. McCone
Director

Attachment

cc: President's Foreign Intelligence
Advisory Board

Signature Recommended:

Distribution:

Date

Orig & 1 - Addressee

1 - DDCI

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9 September 1963

MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

1. Walt Elder requested on 9 September that the previously written five page memorandum for the Presidential Board for Foreign Intelligence Activities on "CIA Organization for Scientific and Technical Intelligence" be rewritten immediately and not to exceed a page and a half.

2. Attached is the page and a half write-up which has been given to and accepted by Mr. Elder.

EO/DO/S&T

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